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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/654,787	09/04/2003	Toshiyuki Tanaka	6639P002	5509
8791	7590	07/20/2005		EXAMINER
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN			DATSKOVSKIY, MICHAEL V	
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD				ART UNIT
SEVENTH FLOOR				2835
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030				PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 07/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/654,787	TANAKA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Michael V. Datskovskiy	2835

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 September 2003.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 10-16 and 25-27 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-4, 17, 20 and 21 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 5-9, 18, 19 and 22-24 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 04 September 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/18/2004</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 17 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 6 after the last word "and" should be inserted the word "to". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Hashimoto (US 2003/0223190 A1).

Hashimoto teaches an apparatus (an electronic device) - a portable computer 1 adapted to be converted to a tablet computer, Figs. 1-14, comprising: a lever 12 positioned between a front and a back display panels; a first fastener 16 and a second fastener 15 coupled to the lever 12, wherein the second fastener 15 engages a display support member 3 when the lever 12 is placed in a first state and disengages from the display support member 3 when the lever 12 is placed in a second state.

4. Claims 1-2, 17, 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hill et al (US Patent 6,816,365).

Hill et al teach an apparatus- a portable computer, Figs. 1-15, comprising: a lever 28; a first fastener 56 pivotally mounted to the lever 28; and a second fastener 66 fixedly coupled to the lever 28, wherein the second fastener 66 engages a display 22 support member 26 when the lever 28 is placed in a first state and disengages from the display support member 26 when the lever 28 is placed in a second state. Hill et al teach furthermore: said electronic device further comprising a hinge assembly 30; a display support member 26 pivotally coupled to the hinge assembly 30; and a display housing pivotally coupled to the display support member 26 at a first horizontal axis of rotation, and to the hinge assembly 30 at a second horizontal axis of rotation, said display housing comprising a flat panel display, and an interlocking mechanism comprising a first fastener 56 and a second fastener 66 interconnected through the lever 28, wherein the second fastener 66 becomes disengaged from the display support member 26 in response to an event performed on the first fastener 56.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 10-16, 25-27 are allowed.
3. Claims 5-16, 18-19, 22-24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: As to claims 5-9, patentability resides at least in part, in the following structure: the apparatus according to claim 1, wherein: the first fastener is pivotally mounted to the first end of the lever and a second fastener is fixedly coupled to the second end of the

lever (claims 5-7); the second fastener disengages from the display support member in response to the lever being laterally shifted by adjusting a position of the first fastener (claims 8-9). As to claims 10-16, patentability resides at least in part, in the following structure: an interlocking mechanism for a display housing, comprising: a bar positioned within the display housing; a first fastener coupled to the first end of the bar; a second fastener coupled to the second end of the bar; the second fastener to become disengaged in response to an adjustment of the bar. As to claims 18-19: patentability resides at least in part, in the following structure: the electronic device according to claim 17, wherein: the first fastener of the interlocking mechanism is positioned at a top portion of the display housing and the second fastener of the interlocking mechanism is positioned at a bottom portion of the display housing (claim 18); the display support member is pivotally coupled to the display housing approximately at a longitudinal center of a back display panel of the display housing (claim 19). As to claim 22: patentability resides at least in part, in the following structure: the electronic device according to claim 21, wherein: the second fastener of the interlocking mechanism of the display housing is disengaged from the display support member when the second fastener is disengaged from a slot of the display support member. As to claims 23-24: patentability resides at least in part, in the following structure: the electronic device according to claim 20, wherein: the depression (claim 23) or the pivoting (claim 24) of the first fastener causes laterally shifting of the lever and the second fastener, causing the second fastener to become disengaged from the display support member. As to claims 25-27: patentability resides at least in part, in the following methods: a method

for adjusting a position of a display housing of an electronic device, comprising: disengaging a first fastener to enable a display housing and a display support member to be collectively rotated about a first horizontal axis of rotation (possible in the device by Hill et al); and disengaging a second fastener to detach a bottom portion of the display housing from the display support member, the second fastener connected to the first fastener by a lever being disengaged in response to an event performed on the first fastener (distinguishing from Hill et al).

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Shimano et al (US 2003/0112590 A1); Bohmer (US Patent 5,229,921); Ohgami et al (US Patent 5,168,423) and Nobuchi et al (US Patent 6,125,040), each being applicable for the rejection of the at least claim 1 of the instant application.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael V. Datskovskiy whose telephone number is (571) 272-2040. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (571) 272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Michael V Datskovskiy
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2835

07/19/2005